

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image printing apparatus comprising:

an image data inputting means for inputting image data;

a command inputting device for inputting a printing

5 command including designation of an image to be output;

a printing means for printing the image to be output;

a display device for displaying an image; and

a processing device for producing a protection processed
image for applying a privacy protection process to the image
10 to be output,

wherein a controlling means for displaying either one of
the protection processed image and the image to be output on
the display device according to the designation by a user is
provided.

15 2. An image printing apparatus comprising:

an image data inputting means having one or a plurality
of recording medium reading devices and/or optical image
reading devices;

a command inputting device for inputting a printing

20 command including designation of an image to be output;

an output content designation data producing means for
producing the output content designation data recording the
image data to be output, processed, or original and the
accompanying conditions based on the original image data

inputted from the image data inputting means and the order content inputted from the command inputting device;

a printing means for printing the image to be output according to the command of the output content designation data;

5 a processing device for producing a protection processed image for applying a privacy protection process to the image to be output;

a display controlling means for selecting either one of the protection processed image and the image to be output as
10 the display image according to the designation by the user; and

a display device for displaying the display image selected by the controlling means.

3. The image printing apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein the controlling means executes the selective display
15 of the protection processed image and the image to be output by the display device during the printing operation by the printing means.

4. The image printing apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein the controlling means executes the selective display
20 of the protection processed image and the image to be output by the display device during the printing operation by the printing means.

5. The image printing apparatus according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the processing device applies at least one

selected from the group consisting of an image darkening process,
a contrast lowering process, an image minifying process, a
binary process of the image, an edge iris process, and an
embossing process to the image to be output as the privacy
5 protection process.

6. The image printing apparatus according to claim 5,
wherein the controlling means receives a designation from a user
for applying any one selected from the group consisting of an
image darkening process, a contrast lowering process, an image
10 minifying process, a binary process of the image, an edge iris
process, and an embossing process as the privacy protection
process, and produces the protection processed image according
to the designated process.